1301SW 4 George Street, South Melbourne, VIC 3205 3 Hiles Street, Alexandria, NSW 2015 info@1301sw.com +61 414 229 278 1301sw.com

David Egan

Ordinary Time

15 Aug – 19 Sep 2026

Melbourne

Ordinary Time, David Egan's debut solo exhibition with 1301SW, presents a new body of paintings that continues his ongoing practice of world building through colour, form, and painterly gesture. This exhibition marks Egan's national representation by 1301SW.

Constructed through the slow accretion of translucent layers of colour, the paintings unfold as perceptual environments in which forms hover between appearance and dissolution. Figures and grounds drift in shifting relation, suggesting ambiguous narratives and uncertain temporalities. Rather than depicting extraordinary worlds, the works attend to ordinary material and perceptual processes — the biological transformation of wheat into bread, spoken words entering listening ears, cells dividing and multiplying — allowing mystery and strangeness to emerge through subtle shifts in perspective, as familiar phenomena are observed from oblique or unstable vantage points.

Egan's practice of painting is defined by an ongoing enquiry into acts of looking and the materiality of images. There is a quiet undercurrent of religious imagery and sensibility in Egan's work, rather than being directly referenced, its presence tends to surface indirectly, as a residue within the paintings' attention to ritual, transformation and the threshold between the material and the immaterial. Egan approaches painting as a procedure of 'colour handling', a term the artist defines as a paradoxical space — as colour is a neurological phenomenon which cannot be touched or handled — from which to interrogate some of the conceptual, emotional and spiritual registers of the medium.

Egan lives and works in Melbourne; in 2026 he was the recipient of the Bayside Painting Prize; he has exhibited regularly for the past decade including the solo exhibitions at Neon Parc, Melbourne (2025 & 2022); Hayden's Gallery, Melbourne (2021); Sutton Gallery, Melbourne (2019); and Gertrude Contemporary, Melbourne (2015). His work has been included in survey shows such as Knowing Otherwise, MUMA (2026); Thin Skin, MUMA, Melbourne (2023); Painting. More Painting, ACCA (2016); and Fabrik; conceptual, minimalist and performative approaches to textiles, Ian Potter Museum of Art and Margret Lawrence Gallery of Art (2016).





David Egan
Narrow corridors, 2026
Oil on linen
153 x 229 cm

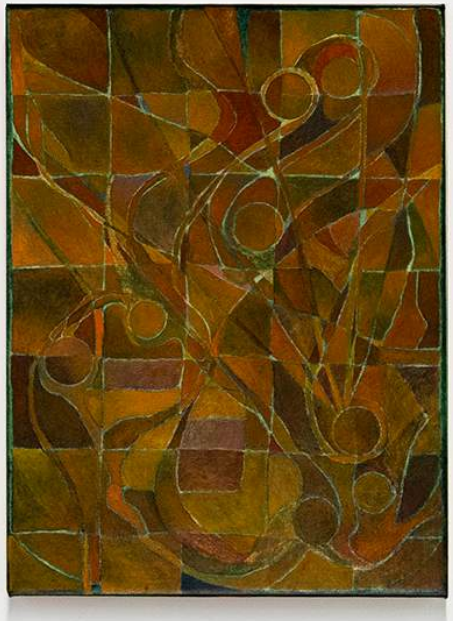




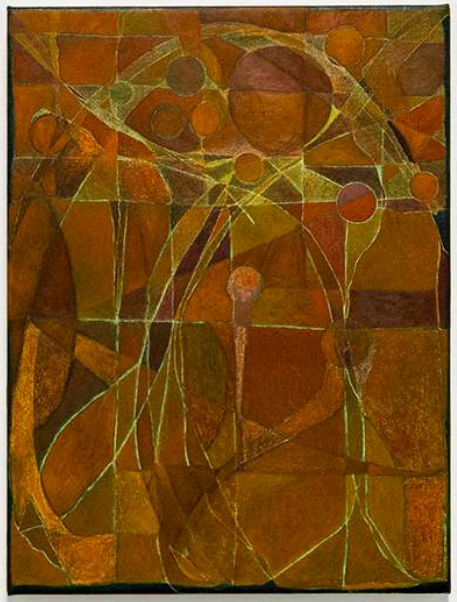


David Egan
Arguing with fog, 2026
Oil on linen
71.50 x 183 cm

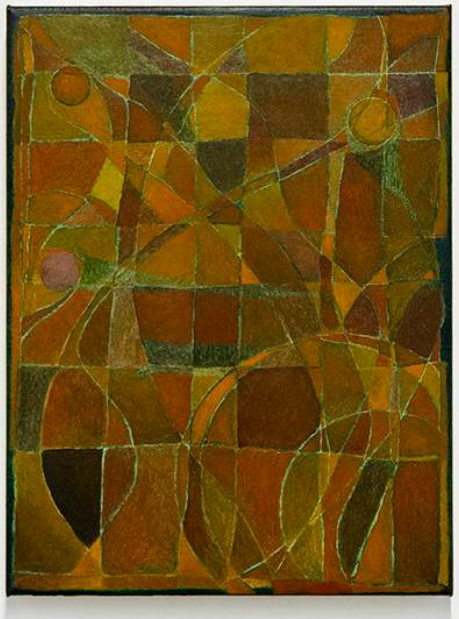




David Egan
Warm applause, 2026
Oil on linen
41 x 31 cm



David Egan
Existing archway, 2026
Oil on linen
41 x 31 cm



David Egan
System lights, 2026
Oil on linen
41 x 31 cm



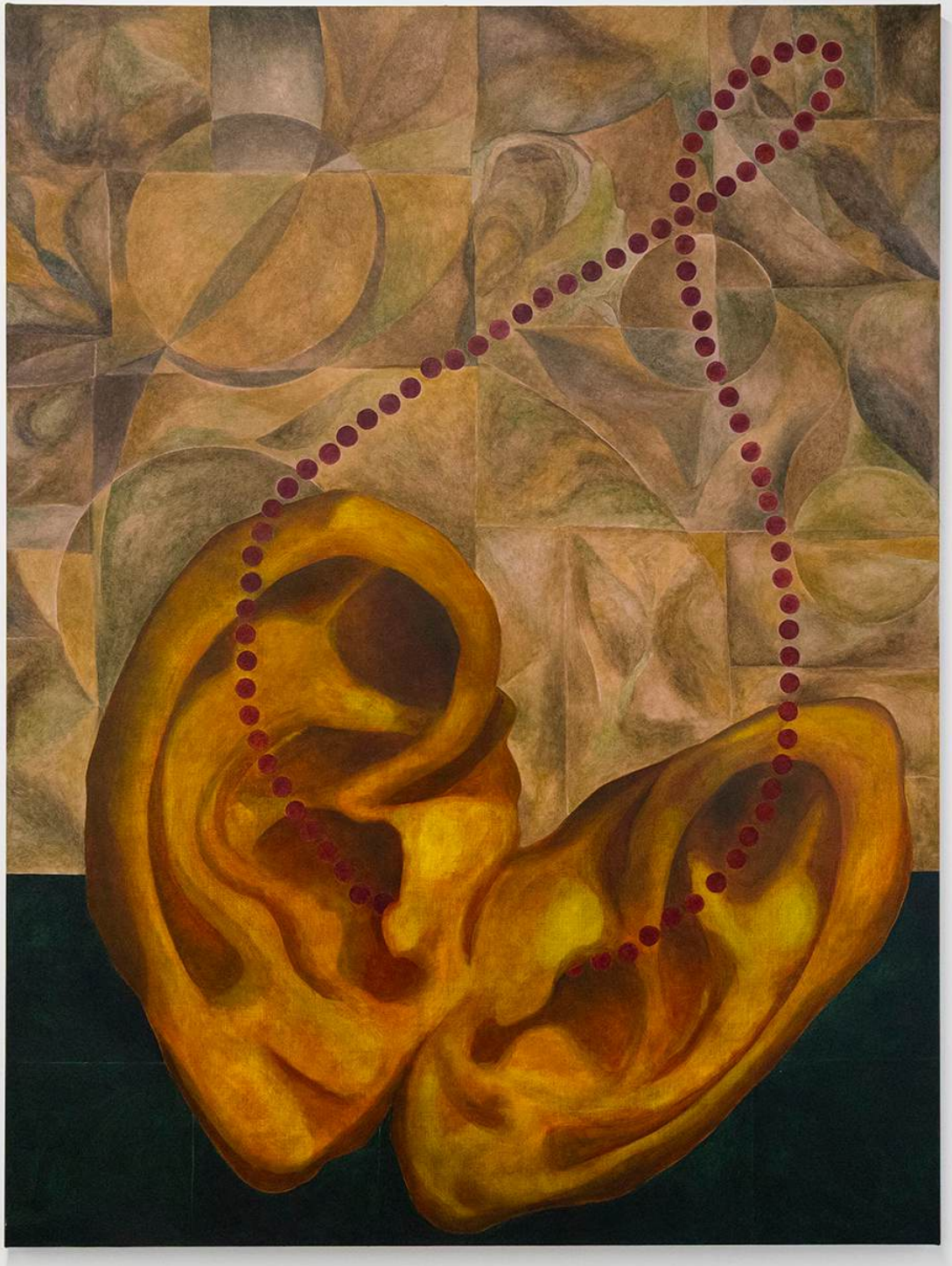


David Egan
Elastic enough, 2026
Oil on linen
71.50 x 81.50 cm



David Egan
Pure and vegetable, 2026
Oil on linen
71.50 x 81.50 cm





David Egan
The ears getting used to the quiet, 2026
Oil on linen
183 x 136.50 cm

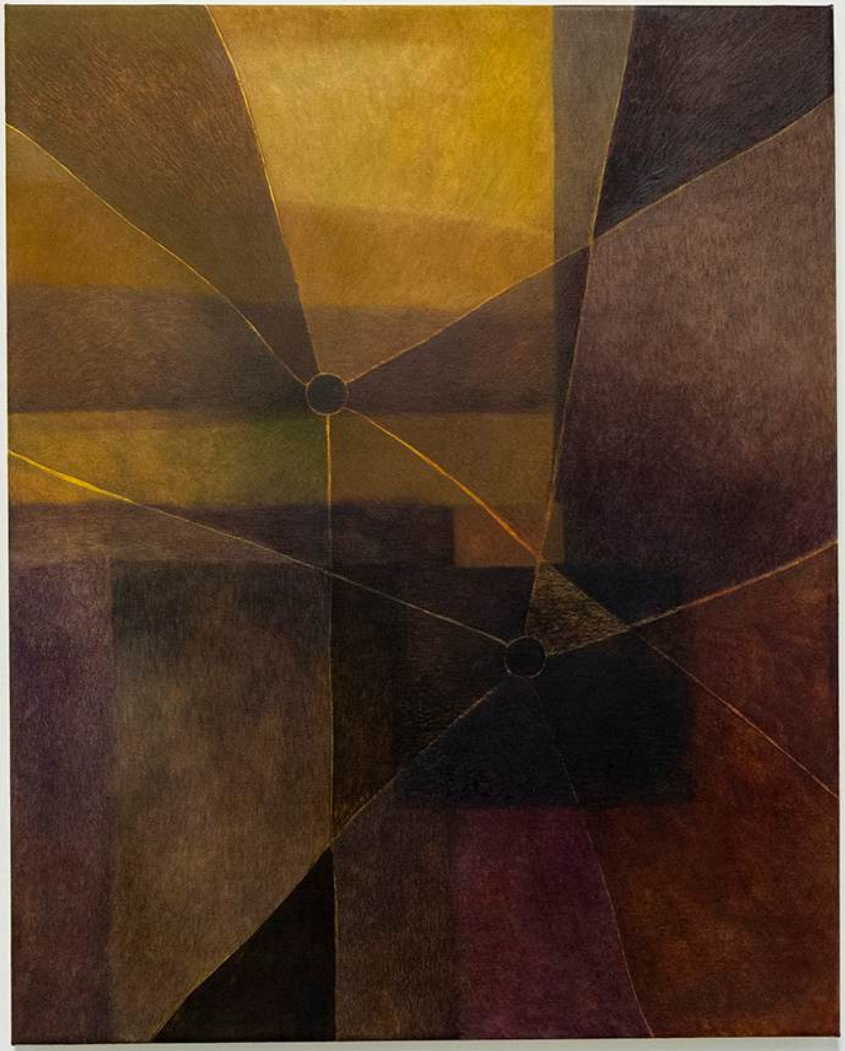




David Egan
The objects, 2026
Oil on linen
122 x 167 cm







David Egan
Time sheet, 2026
Oil on linen
75 x 60 cm

